

Strategic entrepreneurship: Intersection of fields or distinct organisational process?

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Principal Topic

This paper examines the origins and nature of strategic entrepreneurship, and its implications for organisational growth and performance. Strategic entrepreneurship is traced from its inception as the integration of strategic management and entrepreneurship, through to its development as a discrete concept and independently worthy field of study.

Methodology/Key Propositions

A review of strategic entrepreneurship's theoretical foundations, together with case analysis of strategic entrepreneurship in practice, are used as a basis to develop strategic entrepreneurship theory. Drawing on findings from both theory and practice, this paper presents an overview of strategic entrepreneurship's emergence and developments since 2001. Using concepts and frameworks applied in other areas of management research such as strategy and innovation, this paper explores and expands the scope of strategic entrepreneurship through the development of three propositions.

Results and Implications

It is argued that strategic entrepreneurship has attained the status of a distinct process. Such a process can be identified from the unique combination of elements (including opportunity identification, innovation, and leveraging core capabilities and resources) aimed at achieving specified and highly sought-after outcomes. The paper concludes that strategic entrepreneurship represents entrepreneurial activity integrated in a strategic context, a process with the potential for wealth creation, and an important mechanism to positively impact financial performance and growth.

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